

OREGON
BUSINESS
& INDUSTRY



In View: Manufacturing



Oregon Business & Industry counts more than 300 Oregon manufacturers as our members, so we track issues affecting manufacturing very closely. This new newsletter is designed to highlight issues important to our manufacturing members. Please feel free to share your thoughts and news with us, communications@oregonbusinessindustry.com.

Regulatory Updates



OBI Advocating for Reforms to Manufacturing Overtime

OBI has partnered with a coalition of business interests to reform the maximum working hours restrictions in manufacturing. We've heard from many of our members that this 2017 legislation has been a real hardship for both employers and employees. We will be pushing to reform the law this session, but we need your help! [Here](#) is a draft of the bill, please let us know if you have comments. Also, please take a moment to visit www.ReformOregonOvertime.com and tell your legislators how important it is to restore flexibility to manufacturing.

Cap and Trade

Carbon reduction policies, in the form of cap and trade legislation, has been widely talked about by the Legislature, with leaders of both the House and Senate saying it is on their priority list for the 2019 session. While we haven't seen a draft bill yet, we are expecting one next week. We will send it out to members as soon as we can. In the meantime, our team is engaging in efforts to make sure lawmakers know the potential impact this bill could have on jobs and consumer prices throughout Oregon.

Tax Policy



The 2019 legislative session has begun. As we have heard repeatedly, taxes will be at the top of the priority for leadership in the legislature. Mike Stober, director of government affairs for tax and fiscal policy reports that almost 200 tax bills have already been filed, and he has prepared a report of the revenue issues likely to be on the table this session. Mike comes to us with over a decade of tax and fiscal policy experience, most recently as legislative director and tax policy advisor to U.S. Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-Minn). Mike will be reaching out to members to discuss the policy implications of tax legislation.

[Click here](#) to read more about the big tax and finance policy issues we anticipate for the 2019 session.

Right to Repair Legislation

[House Bill 2688](#) was introduced last week. The bill requires manufacturers of digital electronic equipment to give consumers access to parts, tools, service manuals or other devices, implements or information that the manufacturer makes available to authorized repair providers. The bill's chief sponsors are Rep. Rob Nosse, D-Portland, and Sen. James Manning, Jr., D-Eugene. OBI is working with members to respond to this bill.



OBI Director of Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Infrastructure

We are very pleased to report that Sharla Moffett will start work on Feb. 25 as OBI's director, energy, environment, natural resources and

infrastructure. Sharla comes to us from the Western Wood Preservers Institute, where she was director of government affairs. Her experience and expertise is a great fit for OBI.



OBI Comments for DEQ Hazardous Waste Generator Fees Rulemaking

OBI submitted comments to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) about their proposed increase in [Hazardous Waste Generator fees](#). We objected to DEQ's proposal to increase fees without a plan for the long-term viability of the program. Because of the lack of information, OBI members are concerned with the projected fee increases over the next several biennia.



Oregon Manufacturers in the News

[Intel investing in a new Oregon factory](#)

[JBT signs agreement to purchase LEKTRO](#)

[Construction begins for Freres Lumber's massive panels at Oregon State](#)

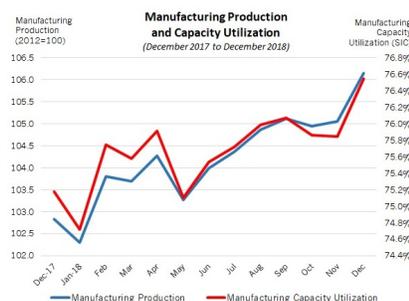


Resources

NAM Weekly Economic Report

From our partners at the National Association of Manufacturers:

Manufacturing production rebounded strongly in December after some softness in the prior three months, jumping 1.1% for the month. Over the past 12 months, manufacturing production has risen 3.2%. More importantly, manufacturing capacity utilization soared from 75.8% in November to 76.5% in December, the best reading since November 2014. Meanwhile, total industrial production rose 0.3% in December, inching down a bit from the 0.4% gain in November. On a year-over-year basis, industrial production has risen 4% -- a solid reading -- and total capacity utilization edged up from 78.6% to 78.7%, which was the highest since January 2015. [Read more.](#)





**Smart Oregon
Businesses Choose
OBI CompSAFE**

LEARN MORE →



OBI HealthChoice

**Big Business Options on
a Small Business Budget**

LEARN MORE →

Oregon Business & Industry
oregonbusinessindustry.com
1149 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

